

Message Text

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IT, UK, NATO, EC

SUBJECT: PRESS CONFERENCE TRANSCRIPT, BONN, 1/25/77

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TRANSCRIPT OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE
HELD AT THE CHANCELLERY BY VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE AND
CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT. ALL REMARKS WERE IN ENGLISH EXCEPT
THOSE INDICATED AS TRANSLATIONS FROM GERMAN: PRESS
BRIEFING WITH CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT AND VICE
PRESIDENT MONDALE AT THE CHANCELLERY, 1630 HOURS,
JANUARY 25, 1977.

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2. QUOTE: CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT: (TRANSLATION) LADIES
AND GENTLEMEN, I AM HAPPY TO BE ABLE TO REPEAT BEFORE
THE GERMAN AS WELL AS THE AMERICAN PRESS THAT THIS
GOVERNMENT, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, IS EXTREMELY
PLEASED THAT THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT, ONLY A FEW DAYS
AFTER ASSUMING OFFICE, HAS ASKED HIS VICE PRESIDENT
TO VISIT US, BUT ALSO OTHER EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS, INCLUD-
ING THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT, IN ORDER TO GET THINGS
MOVING IN MANY AREAS OF COOPERATION. WE HAVE ALREADY
HAD NEARLY FOUR HOURS OF DISCUSSION AND HAVE TOUCHED

ON A WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTS. AND WE HAVE JUST AGREED THAT THE VICE PRESIDENT WILL BE THE FIRST TO TELL YOU IN A FEW WORDS WHAT WE HAVE DISCUSSED. PERHAPS I MAY ADD A FEW WORDS, AND, THE AGENDA PERMITTING, THERE WILL BE AN OPPORTUNITY AFTERWARDS FOR A FEW, LET ME STRESS, A FEW, QUESTIONS. (END TRANSLATION)

CHANCELLOR: GO AHEAD.

VICE PRESIDENT: THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MR. CHANCELLOR. I AM DELIGHTED TO BE HERE TODAY AND PARTICULARLY TO REPORT THAT THE PRESIDENT'S OBJECTIVE OF ESTABLISHING IMMEDIATELY CLOSE AND WARM AND COOPERATIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH OUR TRADITIONAL FRIENDS AND ALLIES IS BEING ACHIEVED IN THE FULLEST SENSE OF THE WORD. TODAY THE CHANCELLOR AND I HAD A CHANCE TO DISCUSS A WHOLE RANGE OF ISSUES. THE DISCUSSION WAS VERY USEFUL, VERY HELPFUL AND BEGINS OUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF GERMANY ON THE BEST POSSIBLE BASIS. I WILL RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES AND REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT OF THIS VERY WARM AND USEFUL DISCUSSION. AND IT BODES WELL FOR THE COORDINATION OF OUR TWO NATIONS IN DEALING WITH THE VAST RANGE OF CONCERNS THAT AFFECT OUR PEOPLE, THAT AFFECT THE PEOPLE ALL OVER THE WORLD. IN THE COURSE OF OUR DISCUSSION WE DEALT WITH ECONOMIC UNCLASSIFIED

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CONCERNS, THE NEED TO STIMULATE OUR ECONOMIES IN A PRUDENT WAY IN ORDER TO INCREASE EMPLOYMENT, IN ORDER TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF THE EXTENT OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ACTIVITY. WE TALKED ABOUT THE NEED PARTICULARLY FOR THE THREE STRONGEST ECONOMIES IN THE WORLD-- THE UNITED STATES, GERMANY AND JAPAN -- TO PROCEED COOPERATIVELY AND SHARE THE BURDEN OF STIMULATING THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMY AS THE RESULT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF OUR SEPARATE ECONOMIES. WE TALKED ABOUT THE NEED, AND WE AGREED ON THE NEED, TO GAIN NEW MOMENTUM IN THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS, THE SO-CALLED GATT TALKS, TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES THAT ARE IN THE WAY OF OUR JOINTLY SHARED HOPES FOR AN OPEN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMY. WE DISCUSSED THE EXPECTED SUMMIT CONFERENCE, QUESTIONS OF TIMING AND LOCATION AND AGENDA. WE DISCUSSED THE ISSUE OF NON-PROLIFERATION, AND ON THAT HAD AN EXCELLENT EXCHANGE AND AGREED TO CONSULT FURTHER AND IN A COOPERATIVE FRAME OF MIND, AND PROSPECTS FOR A COOPERATIVE SOLUTION ARE MUCH ENHANCED BY THIS DISCUSSION. WE BRIEFLY DISCUSSED THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE NEED FOR PROGRESS AND THE NEED FOR THE NEW ADMINISTRATION TO HAVE TIME THROUGH THE VANCE MISSION TO VISIT THE LEADERSHIP OF THE VARIOUS MIDDLE EASTERN NATIONS TO DEVELOP A FULLER UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT

STEPS SHOULD BE TAKEN THERE AND IT IS ALSO OF IMPORTANCE TO US THAT THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MR. GENSCHER, WILL ALSO BE VISITING THESE SAME NATIONS AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME AS SECRETARY VANCE, OPENING FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES FOR COOPERATION IN THAT AREA. WE BRIEFLY DISCUSSED THE VERY FAVORABLE DEVELOPMENTS IN PORTUGAL AND SPAIN. AND WE DISCUSSED OUR SHARED HOPES THAT SOMETHING COULD BE DONE IN A COOPERATIVE WAY, IN A MULTI-NATIONAL WAY, TO RESTRAIN THE SALE OF CONVENTIONAL ARMAMENTS THAT IS NOW, WHICH ARE NOW BEING SOLD IN SUCH ABUNDANCE AROUND THE WORLD. THESE ARE SOME OF THE ISSUES WE DISCUSSED. MAY I SAY, UNCLASSIFIED

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MR. CHANCELLOR, HOW MUCH I DEEPLY APPRECIATE YOUR WARMTH AND YOUR CANDOR AND THE SPIRIT WITH WHICH YOU CARRIED OUT THESE TALKS.

QUESTION: MR. VICE PRESIDENT, YOU TALKED ABOUT NON-PROLIFERATION.

VICE PRESIDENT: YES, WE DID.

QUESTION (CONTINUED): IN THE SPECIFIC PROPOSED AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND BRAZIL. WHAT HAPPENS (INAUDIBLE)

VICE PRESIDENT: THIS WAS OUR FIRST DISCUSSION BETWEEN MYSELF AND CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT AND WE BEGAN A VERY IN DEPTH, DETAILED DISCUSSION OF THAT MATTER AND WE'VE AGREED TO CARRY ON THESE DISCUSSIONS TO DETERMINE WHAT KIND OF FINAL RESOLUTION CAN BE HAD ON THIS MATTER, AND ALSO ON THE BROADER ISSUES OF NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION. THERE WILL BE OTHER TALKS WHICH FOLLOW THOSE WHICH WE HAD TODAY AND IT ...BECAUSE OF THE HIGHLY SENSITIVE NATURE OF SOME OF THE MATTERS INVOLVED I CANNOT GO BEYOND THAT POINT AT THIS TIME.

CHANCELLOR: I WOULD LIKE TO SAY ONE OR TWO SENTENCES IN ENGLISH REGARDING THIS POINT BECAUSE I THINK IT'S ONE WHICH HAS BEEN LOOKED AT IN THE UNITED STATES WITH GREAT INTEREST AND CURIOSITY, AND THEREFORE I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESSIVELY UNDERLINE WHAT THE VICE PRESIDENT HAS SAID JUST NOW AND I WOULD ADD, WITH YOUR PERMISSION, SIR, THAT WE ALSO WERE AGREED THAT THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY SO FAR HAS FULLY LIVED UP TO OUR INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS WHETHER IT IS UNDER THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY OR OTHER INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS TO WHICH WE ARE A PARTY, BUT I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO STRESS THAT WE ALREADY SINCE A UNCLASSIFIED

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NUMBER OF DAYS, EVEN BEFORE PRESIDENT CARTER AND VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE DID TAKE OFFICE, HAVE BEEN IN VERY CLOSE CONTACT ON THESE QUESTIONS, AS WELL AS ON OTHERS, AND THAT WE HAVE PREPARED AND LOOK FORWARD TO WIDEN, AND VERY QUICKLY, WIDEN OUR EXCHANGES. WE ARE QUITE SURE THAT WE WILL COOPERATE VERY CLOSELY IN THIS FIELD. AND I HOPE THAT I WILL BE ABLE TO GIVE THE OTHER ANSWERS IF ANY QUESTIONS ARE DIRECTED TOWARDS ME IN MY OWN LANGUAGE.

QUESTION: (TRANSLATION) MR. CHANCELLOR, DOES THAT MEAN THE CONTRACT WITH BRAZIL WILL BE FULFILLED?

CHANCELLOR: HERR BOELLING HAS JUST POINTED OUT THAT I SHOULD REPEAT IN GERMAN WHAT I HAVE TRIED TO SAY IN ENGLISH. I HAVE EXPRESSLY CONFIRMED, IN VIEW OF THE GREAT INTEREST IN THIS MATTER IN THE UNITED STATES, WHAT THE VICE PRESIDENT HAD SAID, NAMELY, THAT AMONG THE MANY ISSUES WE HAVE THUS FAR DISCUSSED THE QUESTION OF NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION WAS TREATED WITH VERY SPECIAL CARE, AND THAT WE HAVE AGREED ON EARLY CLOSE COOPERATION AND A FURTHER EXAMINATION OF THIS MATTER. I ADDED THAT WE HAVE INDEED ENGAGED FOR SOME TIME IN DISCUSSIONS ON A HIGH LEVEL ("AUF HOHEM NIVEAU," AS WE USE TO SAY IN GERMAN); THAT WE EVEN STARTED THIS DISCUSSION PRIOR TO PRESIDENT CARTER AND VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE ASSUMED OFFICE. WE HAVE AGREED AND EXPECT TO INTENSIFY THE DISCUSSIONS ON THIS ISSUE ON A HIGH LEVEL IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. AND I SAID IN CLOSING THAT THIS, AS BOTH OF US AGREED TODAY, WILL CERTAINLY BE DONE WITH THE PRONOUNCED AND DETERMINED INTENT TO COOPERATE.

QUESTION: MR. CHANCELLOR, IN OTHER WORDS YOU ASSUME THAT THE BRAZILIAN DEAL (INAUDIBLE) WILL COME ABOUT: CHANCELLOR: PRECISELY AS MUCH AS THE VICE PRESIDENT POINTED OUT A LITTLE WHILE AGO: THIS INVOLVES VERY UNCLASSIFIED

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SENSITIVE PROBLEMS, AND I DO NOT WISH AT THIS MOMENT TO GO INTO TOO MANY DETAILS. LET ME, HOWEVER, SAY THIS: JUST AS THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY HAS THUS FAR FULFILLED ALL THE TREATIES IT HAS ENTERED, ITS CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS, SO IT WILL CONTINUE TO DO IN THE FUTURE. THIS DOES NOT RULE OUT THAT IN THE FUTURE ADDITIONAL CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS IN THIS AREA WILL BE ASSUMED. (END TRANSLATION)

QUESTION: MR. VICE PRESIDENT, (INAUDIBLE)

VICE PRESIDENT: WE DISCUSSED IT BUT VERY BRIEFLY AND

NONE OF THE DETAILS WOULD ADD ANYTHING TO THE DISCUSSION AT THIS POINT. THERE WILL BE AN ANNOUNCEMENT, I DON'T KNOW WHETHER YOU WERE AT MY NEWS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY, THERE WILL BE AN ANNOUNCEMENT SOON FROM OUR STATE DEPARTMENT INDICATING A NEW INITIATIVE. BUT I HAVE NOTHING TO ADD BEYOND THAT.

TRANSLATOR: MAY I GIVE A TRANSLATION INTO ENGLISH OF WHAT THE CHANCELLOR HAD SAID IN REPLY TO THE QUESTION ASKED IN GERMAN. THE QUESTION WAS WHETHER THE TREATY AND THE AGREEMENT WITH BRAZIL WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED. THE CHANCELLOR'S REPLY WAS THAT, AS THE VICE PRESIDENT HAS POINTED OUT, THIS FIELD INVOLVES RATHER SENSITIVE PROBLEMS, HE DID NOT WANT TO GO TOO MUCH INTO ANY DETAILS. BUT ONE THING HE WANTED TO MAKE QUITE CLEAR THAT THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY HAS SO FAR FULFILLED ALL THE OBLIGATIONS IT HAS UNDERTAKEN UNDER ANY TREATIES. AND THAT WILL BE THE CASE ALSO IN FUTURE. THIS, ON THE OTHER HAND, DOES NOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY THAT IN FUTURE NEW, ADDITIONAL DUTIES IN THE FORM OF TREATY OBLIGATIONS WILL HAVE TO BE INCLUDED.

QUESTION: MR. VICE PRESIDENT, DID YOU
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CHANCELLOR: NOW PLEASE, BEG YOUR PARDON. WOULD YOU PLEASE NOW TRANSLATE INTO GERMAN WHAT THE VICE PRESIDENT HAS SAID IN HIS LAST ANSWER.
(LAUGHTER)

TRANSLATOR: I DID NOT TAKE ANY NOTES, I'M SORRY.

CHANCELLOR: YOU DIDN'T TAKE ANY NOTES? (LAUGHTER)

VICE PRESIDENT: YOU MEAN IT'S LOST TO HISTORY?
(LAUGHTER)

TRANSLATOR: IT'S TAPE RECORDED.

QUESTION: DID YOU EXPRESS TO CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT THE WISH OF OUR GOVERNMENT FOR STRONGER, STIMULATIVE MEASURES TO EXPAND THE GERMAN ECONOMY? AND IF SO, WHAT WAS HIS RESPONSE?

VICE PRESIDENT: THE ANSWER IS YES, I DID. WE FIRST OF ALL IN OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CHANCELLOR DESCRIBED THE SIZE OF OUR STIMULATIVE PACKAGE. THE CONTENTS OF THAT PACKAGE, THE DURATION OF IT. WE DESCRIBED WHAT WE THOUGHT WOULD BE THE ECONOMIC RESULTS IN TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT, IN TERMS OF ADDITIONS TO OUR GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT. AND WE WERE ABLE TO POINT OUT THAT

IN OUR JUDGMENT IT WILL HAVE NO INFLATIONARY
IMPACT AT ALL THE WAY IT IS PACKAGED. AND I URGED
THE CHANCELLOR, AS I WILL URGE THE PRIME MINISTER OF
JAPAN, TO PURSUE SIMILARLY STIMULATIVE PACKAGES WHICH
WILL INCREASE EMPLOYMENT, INCREASE INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AND, IN THAT WAY, ASSIST NOT ONLY
OUR OWN PEOPLES BUT THE OTHER NATIONS IN DEALING WITH
THEIR PROBLEMS. WE HAD A VERY WARM DISCUSSION ON
THAT ISSUE AND OF THE CHANCELLOR AGREES WITH
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THE NEED FOR STIMULATION AND THEY HAVE HAD A PACKAGE
WHICH THEY ANNOUNCED ON JANUARY 21, TO THAT EFFECT.
THEY ARE STILL, AS I UNDERSTAND IT, WORKING ON THE
MATTER OF THE SIZE AND THE TIMING OF THE PACKAGE.
AND THEY ALSO HAVE IN THIS NATION, SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT
FROM OUR OWN-NEGOTIATIONS WHICH MUST BE UNDERTAKEN
WITH THEIR LOCAL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT. AND...BUT
WE UNDERSTAND ...WE HAD A GOOD UNDERSTANDING ON THIS
MATTER AND I COME AWAY MOST PLEASED.

QUESTION: MR. VICE PRESIDENT,

CHANCELLOR: BEG YOUR PARDON, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,
I WOULD LIKE TO ADD SOMETHING. A LITTLE SENTENCE
OR TWO TO THE ANSWER WHICH VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE
JUST HAS GIVEN. IT IS CORRECT AS HE QUOTED THAT I
STATED IN PARLIAMENT, IN GERMAN PARLIAMENT ON THE
21ST OF JANUARY, LAST WEEK THAT IS, THAT PARALLEL
TO THE CONCEPTION WHICH THE NEW CARTER ADMINISTRATION
IS GOING TO ELABORATE AND HAS IN GREAT OUTLINE ALREADY
PUBLISHED IN THE UNITED STATES, PARALLEL TO THAT, AND
IN KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT WAS BEING IN PREPARATION IN THE
NEW ADMINISTRATION, WE HAVE IN THIS COUNTRY LAUNCHED
THE CONCEPTION OF AN INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM WHICH IS
GOING TO COVER SEVERAL YEARS NOT JUST ONE YEAR. AND
I HAVE SAID IN PARLIAMENT LAST FRIDAY THAT WE ARE
FULLY AWARE OF THE FACT, WHICH THIS AFTERNOON HAS
BEEN STRESSED BY THE VICE PRESIDENT, THAT IT IS INDEED
AN INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE UNITED STATES,
OF JAPAN, OF SOME EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, AMONG WHICH
THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY BEING THE ECONOMIC
STRONGER ONES, AT LEAST AT PRESENT, TO GIVE A STIMULUS
FOR THE WORLD ECONOMY AS A WHOLE WHILE OTHER COUNTRIES,
AT PRESENT LOOKING A LITTLE WEAKER, HAVE FOR THE TIME
BEING TO MORE CONCENTRATE ON FIGHTING INFLATION.
THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT WE SEE THIS WORLDWIDE ECONOMIC
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SITUATION EYE TO EYE, WE CANNOT GO INTO ALL THE

DETAILS WE HAVE TALKED ABOUT AND WE CANNOT GO INTO ALL THE DETAILS WE HAVE IN PREPARATION FOR THE SUMMIT WHICH IS GOING TO COME IN THE COURSE OF THE FIRST HALF OF 1977. CAN'T MENTION THEM ALL BUT WE BOTH WANT TO BE SURE THAT THIS SUMMIT IS GOING TO BE A SUCCESS AND THEREFOR WE HAVE IN MIND TO PREPARE IT VERY CLOSELY AND COOPERATIVELY, AND WE HAVE TALKED ABOUT THE WAYS AND MEANS HOW TO ACHIEVE THIS. THIS WILL, OF COURSE, ALSO HAVE TO INCLUDE FRANCE AND THE UNITED KINGDOM, JAPAN AND POSSIBLY OTHERS. IN THE END, BECAUSE THE TIMETABLE IS RUNNING AND THE FEDERAL PRESIDENT IS WAITING FOR VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE, I WOULD LIKE TO ADD AGAIN HOW THANKFUL MY GOVERNMENT IS -- THE FOREIGN SECRETARY, THE FINANCE MINISTER AND ALSO THE MINISTER FOR ECONOMICS HAVE BEEN PARTICIPATING IN OUR TALKS AS WELL AS THE DELEGATION OF VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE -- HOW THANKFUL WE ARE FOR THE VERY CANDID AND OPEN EXCHANGE OF MINDS AND MEETING OF MINDS LOOKING FORWARD TO CONTINUE IN THE HOURS OF TODAY'S EVENING AND IN THE FUTURE. AGAIN, THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MR. VICE PRESIDENT, AND PLEASE BRING HOME TO YOUR COUNTRY, TO YOUR NATION, ESPECIALLY TO YOUR PRESIDENT, THE GREAT SATISFACTION WHICH WE FEEL, NOT ABOUT YOUR VISIT ONLY, BUT ALSO ABOUT YOUR VISITINCLUDING ABOUT WHAT YOU HAD TO SAY ON BEHALF OF YOUR GREAT NATION AND ON BEHALF OF YOUR PRESIDENT.

(TRANSLATOR TRANSLATES CHANCELLORS REMARKS INTO GERMAN)
CHANCELLOR: (TRANSLATION) MAY I TRANSLATE THE LAST TWO SENTENCES MYSELF, HERR WEBER?

CHANCELLOR: I HAVE JUST SAID IN CONCLUSION THAT I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO THANK THE AMERICAN VICE PRESIDENT FOR HIS VISIT, TO ASK HIM TO CONVEY OUR GRATITUDE TO HIS GREAT COUNTRY, BUT
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ALSO TO ITS PRESIDENT, AND TO ASSURE YOU THAT WE ARE READY, WE ARE PREPARED AND WILLING, TO ENGAGE IN VERY CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.
(END TRANSLATION)

VICE PRESIDENT: MAY I SAY, CHANCELLOR, THAT I TRULY APPRECIATE THIS MARVELOUS CHANCE TO BE WITH YOU THIS AFTERNOON, WITH LEADERS OF YOUR GOVERNMENT. WE HAD THIS CHANCE TO TALK OVER MANY OF THE COMMON PROBLEMS THAT WE FACE. I COMPLETE THESE MEETINGS EVEN MORE ENCOURAGED THAT THE HISTORIC FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN YOUR COUNTRY AND MINE, AND BETWEEN OUR LEADERS, IS ON THE FIRMEST POSSIBLE GROUND. AND I AM GOING TO REPORT THAT GOOD NEWS TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES IMMEDIATELY UPON MY RETURN. I KNOW THAT

PRESIDENT CARTER AND THE CHANCELLOR HAVE ALREADY
TALKED BY PHONE AND HAD A MARVELOUS VISIT SOME
YEARS BEFORE HERE IN BONN, BUT THE PRESIDENT ASKED ME
TO PERSONALLY GIVE YOU THIS AUTOGRAPHED COPY OF HIS
INAUGURAL ADDRESS AS AN EXPRESSION OF HIS FRIENDSHIP.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH. END QUOTE. STOESSEL UNQUOTE VANCE

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